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Congresswoman Doris Matsui Honors 39th Annual Earth Day

Calls for Immediate Action on Climate Change to Protect Our Environment; Highlights Benefits of Green Energy Economy

Washington, **DC** - On the eve of the 39th annual national observance of Earth Day, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-05) issued the following statement:

"In the last few days alone, more action has been taken on climate change than in the entire eight years of the Bush presidency. On Friday, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the findings of their scientific review, which recognized that global warming threatens both public health and public welfare, and that greenhouse gas emissions are influencing everything from crop failures to more intense heat waves that we are seeing right in our hometown of Sacramento.

" Today we held the first hearings in the Energy and Commerce Committee on the comprehensive climate legislation put forth by Chairman Henry Waxman and Energy and Environment Subcommittee Chairman Edward Markey, which when passed, will allow our children and grandchildren to live in a country that is more sustainable, more economically viable, and more efficient than the country we live in today. President Obama and Congress

are taking on the nation's energy and environmental crises, issues that has been ignored for years, and making the tough decisions necessary to move the country in a new direction, create green jobs and build a clean energy economy.

"Tomorrow, we will celebrate the 39th annual Earth Day, a worldwide celebration day designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment and educating individuals about what they can do to help.

Conse rving energy, like turning around our economy, will require the help and participation of each and every American.

As we celebrate Earth Day this year, I encourage every Sacramantan to join me in recommitting themselves to doing everything they can to leave behind a healthier, cleaner planet for our children and grandchildren.

"I spent last week touring Sacramento businesses that are committed to finding ways to incorporate their ideas and technological breakthroughs into our plans to lower our carbon footprint and help create green jobs in Sacramento. I concluded my tour by announcing my founding membership to the Congressional Green Jobs Caucus, which is dedicated to promoting quality job training programs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields like the ones being pioneered in Sacramento. By taking immediate action toward climate change and by investing in clean energy, we will reduce carbon pollution in our water supply and the air we breathe, as well as bring new jobs and prosperity to our community."

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